

BOOK REVIEWS.

FIELD BOOK OF INSECTS. Lutz, F. E. 509 pp., pocket octavo, 101 plates of numerous figures. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1918. \$2.50.

This book is an innovation among insect books in several ways. It is printed on thin paper with narrow margins and on this account contains more material than would appear from its exterior; it includes keys to the families of some orders, to the genera of some families and to the species of a few groups of conspicuous insects like the longicorn beetles, household flies, bumble-bees, etc.; and lastly it is written by one who has had unusual opportunities to find out what the "layman" really wants to know about insects. From the latter it must not be inferred that the entomologist will not find the book useful, especially to put in the hands of beginning students. The illustrations, many of which are colored, are very good and well selected, the great majority original, from drawings by Mrs. Beutenmuller. Unfortunately the publishers have failed entirely to number the colored plates but as all the figures have the names appearing beneath them this omission is not so bad as it might have been.

C. T. B.

A YEAR OF COSTA RICAN NATURAL HISTORY. Calvert, A. S. and P. P. Calvert. Octavo, pp. 577, with numerous half-tone illustrations and map. The Macmillan Co., New York, 1917.

Although this is a general account of Costa Rican natural history, its writers are particularly interested in dragon-flies, and the book is in quite considerable part entomological. Aside from a description of the country and its people as observed by the writers during their visit, there are notes on the fauna and flora illustrated by a series of good photographs and a large number of observations on insects other than Odonata. The writers were in Cartago at the time of the destructive earthquakes of May, 1910, but fortunately escaped injury and were able to save the collections they had made.

The book gives an idea of the entomological possibilities of Costa Rica and should be of interest to entomologists or others planning to visit this country as well as to those expecting to journey in other parts of the American tropics for the first time.

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